CLAIMS

1. A method for providing instructions to a user for operating an external defibrillator device 70 having a set of electrodes 50 couplable to a patient, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting over a wireless protocol a voice prompt instructing the user to attach the set of electrodes 50 to the patient; and

transmitting over the wireless protocol at least one additional voice prompt instructing the user to administer defibrillator therapy.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of transmitting over the wireless protocol a voice prompt instructing the user to administer CPR therapy.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of transmitting over the wireless protocol a voice prompt instructing the user that a patient assessment sequence is to begin.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said external defibrillator 70 is a fully automatic external defibrillator.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said external defibrillator 70 is a semi-automatic external defibrillator.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said wireless protocol is selected from the group consisting of Bluetooth, IEEE 802.11, IEEE 802.15, IEEE802.16, Near Field Communication --- Interface and Protocol ("NFCIP-1"), and HomeRF.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting voice prompts to a receiver embedded in a portable device 56.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein said portable device 56 is selected from the group consisting of a headphone, wireless telephone and a PDA.

9. An electrotherapy device 70 comprising:

a controller 74;

an energy source 12;

at least one electrode 50 for providing electrotherapy to a patient;

an energy delivery system 19 operable by the controller to deliver an electrical shock from the energy source to the at least one electrode;

a voice circuit 94 for generating audio prompts initiated by the controller;

a wireless transmitter 85 coupled to the voice circuit for transmitting the audio prompts over a wireless communication protocol.

10. The electrotherapy device of claim 9 further comprising a portable device 56 having a wireless receiver embedded therein, said wireless receiver operating in accordance with the wireless communication protocol over which the wireless transmitter operates.

11. The electrotherapy device of claim 10 wherein said portable device 56 is selected from the group consisting of a headphone, wireless telephone and a PDA.

12. The electrotherapy device of claim 9 wherein said electrotherapy device is an external defibrillator.

13. The electrotherapy device of claim 12 wherein said external defibrillator is a fully automatic external defibrillator.

14. The electrotherapy device of claim 12 wherein said external defibrillator is a semi-automatic external defibrillator.

15. The electrotherapy device of claim 9 wherein said wireless communication protocol employed by the wireless receiver is selected from the group consisting of Bluetooth, IEEE 802.11, IEEE 802.15, IEEE802.16, Near Field Communication --- Interface and Protocol ("NFCIP-1"), and HomeRF.